

January 14, 2011

Dear Representative:

As Congress reassesses its role in the healthcare reform discussion, we urge you to listen closely to the input of America's small businesses and take immediate steps to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA). NFIB strongly supports H.R. 2, the "Repealing the Job-Killing Health Care Law Act," and a vote in favor of H.R. 2 will be scored as an NFIB Key Vote for the 112th Congress.

Small business owners understand that PPACA is a fatally-flawed solution that they do not want and cannot afford. NFIB recently balloted its members, and 93% agreed that Congress should repeal the new law. In addition, the December 13, 2010 Rasmussen Reports national telephone survey indicates that 60 percent of likely voters at least somewhat favor repeal of the healthcare law – a four point increase from a poll conducted earlier in December.

In February of 2010, prominent supporters, speaking at a White House Summit said, "This bill is not only about the health security of America. It's about jobs. In its life it will create 4 million jobs -- 400,000 jobs almost immediately; jobs, again, in the health care industry, but in the entrepreneurial world as well." Instead, what we have heard repeatedly are the voices of job creators who have said that they will not create jobs because the healthcare law is financed through destructive job-killing policies including:

- An employer mandate that encourages job cuts, not job creation
- New taxes on small business health insurance plans
- Onerous 1099 paperwork information reporting mandates
- Union and big business carve-outs
- Increases in Medicare payroll taxes
- New taxes, fees and mandates specifically targeted at the small business community
- Prohibitions on HSAs, FSAs and HRAs that limit employer and employee flexibility and drive up healthcare costs

Our small business owners remain deeply concerned that the healthcare law costs too much and further jeopardizes the economic recovery of our nation's job creators. If new taxes, new mandates and new government programs in PPACA remain intact the law will stifle the ability to hire, grow and invest – key components that are necessary to move America's economy forward in a robust and meaningful way. Simply put, Congress must repeal PPACA immediately.

While small business supports repeal of the PPACA, repeal is the first not the final step. Repeal alone is not enough because in the absence of real and meaningful reform, small businesses number one concern - access and affordability of healthcare - will remain. We urge Congress to take two critical steps to address healthcare concerns facing Main Street employers and employees. First, Congress must begin conducting oversight hearings to examine the lessons learned from PPACA. Second, we call on Congress to do what wasn't done before - engage with people in states and districts across the nation who remain actively involved and committed to developing responsible and responsive healthcare solutions that put costs first and people - not government - in control of their healthcare needs.

For more than a decade, our nation's entrepreneurs in the small business and self-employed communities have called on Congress to address the most critical problem they face – high healthcare costs. Our small business owners remain focused on finding solutions that strike the necessary balance that allows small business to access quality, affordable healthcare and allows them to remain the job creators that America depends on each and every day. NFIB strongly urges you to stand up for America's job creators, and vote to repeal the health care law.

Sincerely,

Susan Eckerly
Senior Vice President

Federal Public Policy